

EXHIBIT A

The Honorable Rachel Peter Kovner
United States District Judge
Eastern District of New York

Re: Rives v. SUNY Downstate College of Medicine, *et al.*
Case N^o 1:20-CV-621 (RPK) (LB)

Dear Judge Kovner:

Defendants have submitted a reply to my brief addressing the Court's September 30th Order to Show Cause. *See* Defs.' Repl. (Dkt. #81). I beg the Court's leave to respond.

A second matter: Over the past year, I have reminded defendants at least four times of our mutual obligation under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) to confer "as soon as practicable" in order to formulate a discovery plan. Defendants steadfastly refuse, saying they do not wish to engage in any discovery until their pending motion to dismiss has been fully decided. I have repeatedly encouraged them to seek a court order modifying or dispensing with the Rule 26(f) meet-and-confer requirement, but it appears that they have no intention of doing so. I therefore move for an order compelling defendants to meet and confer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Michael Rives". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "Rives" being the most prominent parts.

December 21st, 2022.